

# Caherelly NS

## May News Bulletin

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**24/05/2024**

Dear Parents,

This is always a very busy time of year in school and this year is no exception. The usual June Newsletter will be issued before the summer holidays but in the meantime this bulletin is to keep you updated with important information.

### **Standardised Testing**

- Standardised testing is now almost complete and school reports will be issued on June 10th.
- Pupils who missed testing will have their tests followed up during SET time. As always we encourage families not to take holidays during the month of May as it puts undue pressure on SET timetables and means that children in receipt of individual and small group lessons miss out.

### **School Fundraising Events**

- Goodies for Gaza which was organised by Ms Conway was a fantastic success. The children did great work and raised €400 for a very important cause & raising awareness throughout our school community.
- Breakfast for Childline raised an amazing €805. This is an excellent contribution from our school community to such a worthwhile cause.
- Our Parents Association Annual School Walk will take place tomorrow evening at 7pm. Baked goods will be accepted at school at hometime or from 6pm. We are looking forward to a good turnout and it is always a lovely occasion. Funds raised will go towards the purchase of outdoor play equipment.

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## School Activities

- Irish Dancing has finished for the year but will recommence in September with Melissa Keane. Please contact the office if you are interested. It will be available for pupils from 1st to 6th and take place on Wednesday evenings from 3-4pm.
- Traditional Music lessons with Laoise Fitzgibbon has also finished this week. We are currently looking for a replacement teacher and will update you in due course.
- The last of our swimming lessons in UL will take place today. Swimming lessons are hugely beneficial for all pupils. Please try to keep your children swimming over the course of the year as it really helps them to progress.
- Music Generation classes continue each week until the summer holidays. It's been a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to work with our musician Aoife all year, singing, playing and composing their own music.
- Stepping Up; the Stepping Up programme is a transition programme for pupils in 6th class to help prepare them for secondary school. This will take place tomorrow, May 24th and we will be joined as usual by the 6th class pupils from Bohermore NS.
- **As I am** presentation was held this week and we hope all who attended got something useful from the session. Slides will be sent to those who requested them.
- 6th Class Graduation will take place on June 19th at 1:30pm. There will be Mass, celebrated by Fr Cleary, followed by refreshments in the school hall.
- Cumman na mBunscol camogie and hurling blitzes have been held over the past fortnight. Well done to our pupils. Thank you to Mr Keane for his great coaching and reinforcing respect and team spirit among our players.
- Sports Day in UL was held earlier in the month for pupils with additional needs. It was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils. Thanks to the staff involved, Mrs O'Malley, Ms Williams and our Co-op student Aoife.

## Announcements

- Green Flag - our school was awarded its Green Flag for litter and waste at a ceremony in Killarney earlier this week. Congratulations to Ms Conway and her Green School Committee and indeed to all our pupils for the receipt of this award.

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- Sacraments - pupils from 2nd class have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Communion this term. Well done and thank you to Ms Cunniffe and Ms Byrne on their work in preparation of the pupils. The choir was conducted by Mrs McGuinness and they did a fantastic job on the day , adding so much to the occasion.
  - Our two Co-op students Aoife Kennedy and Lauren Leonard have been with us since January. They finish their work experience with us tomorrow. We would like to thank them for their hard work and dedication to our pupils over the past few months and wish them the very best for their future careers.

### **Morning & After School Care Survey**

- Many thanks to all who responded to our recent survey. There was quite a bit of interest in Morning and After school care in the school but not enough to have a viable service in the near future. The feedback from the survey was helpful and gave us information on how to improve services for parents. We have collaborated with Helen in Caherelly Kids to try to address these needs. From September, Helen will remain open until 6pm each evening. Due to increased subsidies, the cost (at Caherelly Kids) to parents will reduce considerably from September.
- You have also expressed a need for more after school activities. This is something we will continue to explore in the coming weeks. We would be happy to continue to make use of school grounds/halla and invite practitioners of various activities/sports to provide classes for pupils after school. This year we had Ceomhaltas traditional music lessons, Irish dancing and basketball. We will do our best to provide these or similar activities next year. Parents who have recommendations of teachers in music, craft, drama, sport or other such after school activities please contact the office.

### **School Tours**

On Tuesday 11th June , Junior, Senior , First and Second class pupils will travel to the Old Rectory for their school tour.

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On Thursday 13th June Third, Fourth and Fifth class will travel to Limerick City to visit Thomond Park, King John's Castle and go bowling .

On Thursday 13th June 6th Class will travel to Wildlands in Moycullen , Co Galway.

## **Class Allocation for 2024/25**

This summer will be very busy with staff appointments. We will be appointing two new teachers and two SNAs. Due to the fact that staff are not yet appointed it is not possible to allocate teachers to classes as yet. Appointments will be made over the summer. At the earliest possible opportunity, parents will be notified of what teachers will be teaching each class.

**Junior and Senior Infants - Ms Ryan**

**Special Class - Ms Williams**

**Additional Educational Needs Teachers - Mrs O' Malley, Mrs McGuinness & Mr McMahon.**

**Teachers for 1/2nd class - TBC (Ms Cunniffe will be taking a Career Break for 24/25),**

**3/4th class - TBC**

**5th class - TBC**

**6th class - TBC**

**Ms Conway, Mr Keane and two new teachers will all teach classes and you will be notified of the allocations in due course.**

## **Parish Event**

In October there will be a joint event held in conjunction with ourselves, Bohermore NS and Ballybricken-Bohermore parish to help raise funds for the parish and schools. It will take place in Ballyneety Golf Club on October 18th. A great night is planned with a raffle and a band. More to follow in the coming weeks. If any businesses would like to sponsor a raffle prize, please contact the office. Tickets for the event will be on sale shortly.

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Our school building will celebrate the 70th anniversary of its opening in 2025. Caherelly NS itself is in existence since 1840 approx. We would welcome any pictures of classes or events held in the school or the old school (or indeed Rochestown NS) over the years; newspaper reports or similar would also be very welcome. The aim is to put them all together in a booklet. The above can be forwarded to [Caherelly70@caherellyns.com](mailto:Caherelly70@caherellyns.com)

Please put the date of the event/class etc and title in the subject line. We would appreciate if this could be circulated to any past pupils also.

## **Book Grant**

This year your child's books and copies will again be free. The Department of Education has reduced the book grant by the sum of €16 per child. As a result we will have to charge a little more for the sundries and subscriptions. This is unfortunate but is out of our control.

## **Hot Meals**

We will put out a Survey later in the term to get your feedback on school meals.

## **School Holidays**

We will be getting our summer holidays on Friday 21st June at 12.00 noon and will be reopening on Wednesday 28th August 2024.